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PATENT
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Attorney Docket No.: 9436-9 (147359)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent application of :
Steve E. Hoffman :
Serial No.: 09/965,162 : Group Art Unit:
Filed: September 27, 2001 : 3724
For: IMPROVED SAW BLADE : Examiner:
John Windmuller

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AUG 15 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 83700

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final office action (paper no. 9) mailed May 22, 2003. This response is filed within the shortened statutory period set in the office action. No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this response. Please charge any fee that is due, and credit any overpayment, to deposit account no. 50-0573.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below, with sufficient postage, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BY

DATE

James M. McHenry
August 6, 2003